MAY 4-17 2006.

THE Highlands Communicator

FREE

Haliburton County's Good News Fun Free Newspaper

Kinsmen Celebrating 50th Year ... What A Great 50 Year's It's Been Too!!!

Tom Prentice

On May 20th, 1956, a group of hard working Minden men obtained the charter for the area's first Kinsmen Club and immediately set to work to better their community. The founding members included Deac Jackson, a plumber: Lyle McKnight, a contractor (and later reeve); Eldon Deacon, a garage owner; Ken Lewis, the LCBO manager; Roy Windover, then a LCBO employee; Harry Earl, who worked for Ontario Hydro; and John Kernohan, then a logger and mill operator.

"That group was really something," says Tom Prentice Sr., the Club's current President and member since the early 1970s. "Within three years they'd raised enough money to buy outright the first fully equipped ambulance for the town of Minden

Kinsmen cont'd... pg. 6 & 7...

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Inside This Issue:

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A Mother's Love

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WHAT ?? NO SNOWMOBILING IN HALIBURTON COUNTY ?!?

That Could Happen If Nobody Steps Up To The Plate Real Soon!!

"It's such a crying shame," says Andy Chvedukas, "that after 35 years of hard work, great success, and huge economic benefits, it's all in danger of becoming extinct."

Andy is the President of the Haliburton County Snowmobilers Association (HCSA), but if the HCSA doesn't soon get some more volunteer support this year will definitely be its last. Over the years the HCSA has seen the sport transcend from an activity that was not particularly welcomed by local landowners and even businesses into one that pours over $12 million into the local economy each year. Simply put, snowmobiling is an essential Haliburton industry: but unless some more HCSA members volunteer to run the Association it will be forced to disband. And if the Association is finished so is the trails system. And without a trail system, there will be no organized snowmobiling within Haliburton County.

Andy has been Club President for the last four years and he really needs a break. "We need new blood and new ideas, no question. And I'm not afraid to suggest that we need more volunteer help from the many businesses who benefit directly from snowmobiling. A lot of us in the Association are simply burnt out – we're an ageing population, and we need young, committed folks to step up." The constant demands of trail maintenance, driver education, grooming all winter long, organizing membership drives, publishing the trail maps and so on have taken a toll on many volunteers. In fact, the situation is so bad that the Association now has only seven board members, three less than it needs to continue to exist.

The Association's Annual Meeting will be held on May 13th at 6 pm at the Delta Pinestone. This past winter the membership numbered over 2000, and Chvedukas is hoping that an enthusiastic turnout from members and interested businesses alike will ensure the HCSA's future.

"Listen up," says Andy. "This is no scare tactic: it's a crisis, it's real, and we need some significant help if we're going to survive."

If you want to see snowmobiling continue in Haliburton County, you may want to attend the upcoming meeting on May 13th at the Delta Pinestone - 6 p.m.

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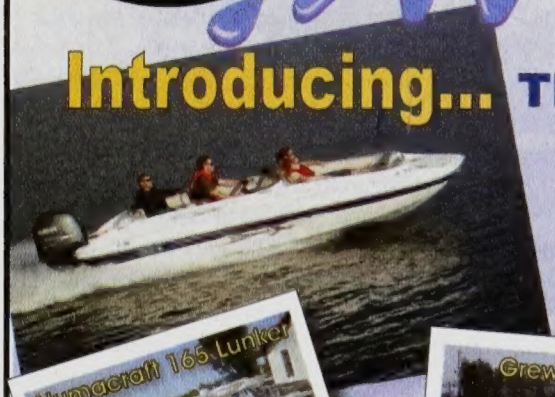
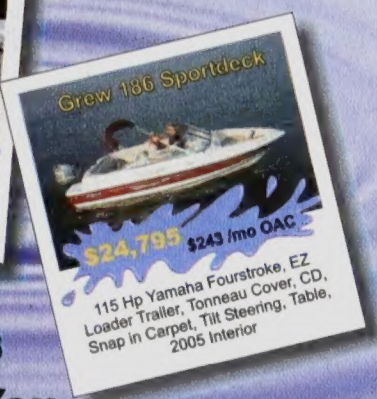


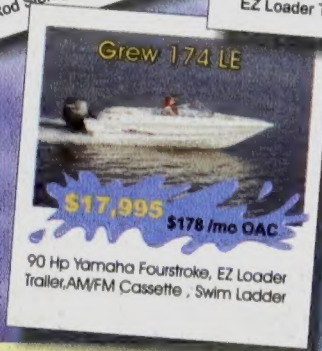
40 Hp Yamaha Fourstroke, EZ Loader Trailer, 3 Fishing Seats, Livewell, Rod Storage, 2005 Model

60 Hp Yamaha Fourstroke, EZ Loader Trailer, Gauge Package



115 Hp Yamaha Fourstroke, EZ Loader Trailer, Tonneau Cover, CD, Snap in Carpet, Tilt Steering, Table, 2005 Interior

50 Hp Yamaha Fourstroke, High Thrust Bimini Top, Mooring Cover, CD, Rear Entry with Swim Ladder, Sundeck



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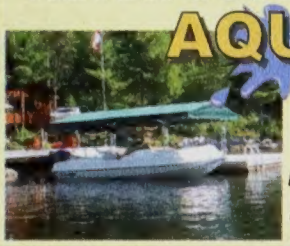

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YAMAHA

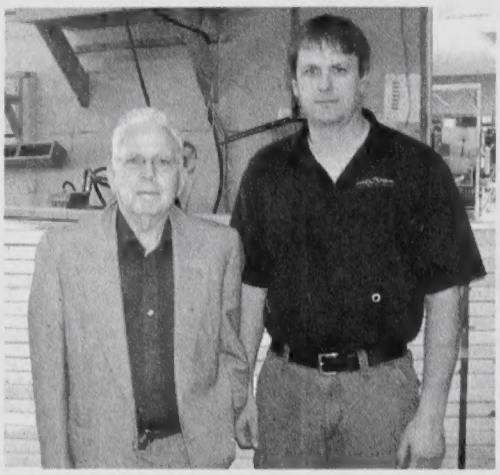
Holden Truss

Spotlight On Business

A Company You Can "Truss"

In 1985 Brian and Audrey Holden left the highly competitive, highly stressed and take-no-prisoners world of the Toronto construction industry and moved their family to the Haliburton Highlands and a new start. "The construction business in Toronto and the GTA in the 1980s was really pretty wild," recalls Brian. "I was negotiating union contracts on behalf of my fellow contractors at one point, when a 5 cent an hour difference was like a life and death issue. We'd become a very successful business, but it really was time for what we thought would be semi-retirement."

Brian and Audrey and their sons soon settled into the Highlands and started a small construction company. But as the full impact of the 80s housing boom began to hit Brian and his business partner Bill Picard decided to start a business that would supply prefab roof and floor trusses to local contractors. They had the expertise, found the financing, and in 1986 their company was born.



Brian & Kirk Holden

"We started with 1200 square feet of factory space on two acres of land. From the beginning we knew we had to be able to manufacture complex trusses economically and on time: and we immediately began a relationship with the Gang-Nail company which supplies metal connectors (and the accompanying software) for truss construction," says Brian.

"We had great support right away from the local lumber yards and contractors, but we also knew that to be successful long term we had to reach provincial, national, even international markets." With Brian's extensive contacts throughout the construction industry, the word soon spread that state-of-the-art roof and floor trusses were available from this small, but ambitious Haliburton company.

Brian Holden fondly recalls the excitement when their first international orders began to arrive. "Our first Korean and Japanese orders were fulfilled in 1989, for three or so houses in each country. The idea of our products going from our little factory on the Industrial Park Road all the way across the world was really something. In the 1989 Rotary Parade we made up a huge banner saying KOREA that went right across our float: quite a moment, when you think about it." Soon afterwards their trusses found customers in Germany, the Czech Republic, the U.S. and just recently the Caribbean island of St. Kitts.

By 1993 the Holdens were the sole owners of the company and along with everyone else in Haliburton were fighting the brutal recession of the early 1990s. But they knew that they had the technology and the expertise the industry needed and were well positioned to ride out the tough times.

The manufacture of roof and floor trusses requires a combination of technical and design excellence, a small but dedicated work force and the ability to respond to the increasingly complex of modern architecture and design. Brian and Audrey's son Kirk comments that "we've had to constantly re-invest in our software and equipment just to meet the minimum demands of contractors."

Kirk Holden graduated from Haliburton High in the 1980s and worked for a few years for Petrini Construction before he joined his Dad in 1991 "sweeping the floors and learning the business from

Holden Truss cont'd... pg. 5...

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Forever in our Hearts...
Roberta Welsh - Feb 12/06

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20 Years of Success & Still Growing

... from pg. 4

the ground up, literally." He became President in 2002, although "I consult my Dad on any big decisions, purchases, and so on. He's an invaluable resource to us."

Kirk has seen the drought of the early 90s turn into another housing boom that's stretched the resources and capacities of Holden Truss to the limit. "We've really benefited from the enormous change in cottage construction we've seen over the last 20 years. The cottage is no longer a cottage, of course, and builders and designers need increasingly complex roof and floor structures to accommodate their designs. All those open roofs, vaulted and coffered ceilings, gable windows all mean more detail and more stringent construction standards. And we're the ones who can deliver those designs at a truly competitive cost."

Holden Truss employs two fulltime designers of their own who analyze the building plans and adapt them to their own software and laser equipment. Once the transition is complete, the design goes to the plant workers who, using a high level of skill, the computer templates, and some really impressive machinery, put each individual job together. Holden's now boast a laser software program that analyzes a design and projects an exact template directly onto the work surface – practically eliminating any margin of error.

Kirk says he's convinced that the demands of designers are inevitably going to become "more complex, more detailed, with more innovations and individual features all the time. And we've got to be prepared because these more complicated projects force you into even more automation. For example, we're looking to replace our main saw, which we've had since 1989. Back then it was worth the better part of $100,000. Now we're looking at much more than double that, independent of any of the laser or design components."

Holden Truss' plant has grown 10 times its original size in the last 20 years to 12,000 square feet on 10 acres and employs up to 14 during peak construction season. Kirk welcomes the challenges the next 20 years will inevitably bring and is proud to be carrying on the company's tradition of excellence and innovation. He and his wife Terrilynn have two children, Jamie (3) and newborn Kamryn (just three weeks), and are all proud Haliburtonians. Kirk also actively supports the local building industry, and this is year is President of the Haliburton County Home Builders Association.

Holden Truss in located on Haliburton's Industrial Park Road and can be reached at 705 457-1687, or at 1 800 668-5635.

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Emergency Transportation Made Easier Thanks To Kinsmen Club

... from pg. 1

– and they also manned it for a number of years afterwards. And by 1966 they'd supplied another ambulance to replace the original."

Prior to the Kinsmen's gift, Minden residents relied on the local Red and White owner, Lance Easton, for emergency transportation. Easton's used to deliver groceries in those days, and the delivery truck did double duty, with Lance driving, if anyone needed to be taken urgently to Lindsay or Peterborough hospitals. Tom can't recall exactly, but he seriously doubts if there were any fees involved.

The Ice Races are fun to watch

The Kinsmen, now known as Kin Canada, is the largest all-Canadian service organization made up of active community volunteers. A young plumber, Harold A. Rogers founded the Club back in 1920 in Hamilton. He wanted to become a Rotarian, but in those days Rotary only admitted one member from a particular trade or profession, and Harold's dad, also a plumber, was already a member. So Harold and a group of young friends met for dinner one night, and the Kinsmen were born. The Club quickly became the popular alternative to Rotary for young men, particularly those in the trades. In fact, at one time, membership was restricted to men between the ages of 20 and 40. Over the years this restriction was dropped, and a sister Club, the Kinettes was founded. Now all Clubs accept men and women automatically. Today there are over 8000 members nationwide, with almost 600 individual Clubs.

Over the years the Minden Kinsmen and Kinettes have supported virtually every major and minor community need. The Club's motto "Serving the Community's Greatest Need" is indicative of the local autonomy each Club has in determining how it will raise funds and how those funds will be spent in the community. "This has meant that we can respond not just to the big causes, like helping to retire the mortgage of the Lions Medical Centre, or the smaller ones like supplying all the park benches along the river, but also to the needs of individuals who've come on hard times, through sickness or a house fire, for example," says Tom Prentice.

"If any member of our community has a need, you can apply for our help. We're all independent Clubs, but we pay our dues to the national organization. Those dues represent just 15% of the money we raise. All the rest stays within our community and helps individuals, and organizations like the SIRCH Community Hospice and the Food Bank. We've also helped kids hockey and baseball, and we provide a bursary for a high school student each year.

"But we're also really proud of the millions we've raised as part of Kin Canada for the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (CCFF). Since 1964 the Kinsmen and Kinettes have raised almost $35 million dollars for the CCFF and our goal is to raise a total of $50 million."

All these activities are funded by a variety of highly popular community events organized and hosted by the Minden Kinsmen. The two most significant are the winter Ice Racing Series, an official part of the Canadian Automobile Sports Clubs (CASC) calendar, which takes place at the Minden Fairgrounds. In fact, the event is so well run and the track so well prepared (by Tom Prentice Trucking and

Kinsmen cont'd... pg. 7 ...

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Kinsmen Truck & Tractor Pull An Event Not To Miss - Especially This Year!!!!

... from pg. 6

fellow Kinsmen), that the Minden Track is one of only three in Ontario that's fully accredited by the CASC (the others are Shannonville and Mosport). The event consists of races over six weekends in February and March and is run under CASC rules.

The Kinsmen also host Minden's Winter Carnival, hold a huge community garage sale during the May long weekend – with all proceeds going to the CCFF – and of course organize and run the famous Minden Kin Truck Pull which takes place this year on Saturday, June 17th.

"I've been really proud to have been part of this Club over the years," says Tom, who's been in the family trucking business all his life. He's also won his share of honours, being named Outstanding President in his Zone one year, receiving the Master Kin award another, as well as being made a Life Member. "Family and community are really the most important things you have in life," he says, "and the Kinsmen have been a big part of mine." Tom's son Jack is also a member, and together with his other three sons, Tom Jr., Terry, and Tony are all part of the family business.

To celebrate the Kinsmen's 50th anniversary, Tom says "we're going to have a party sometime in October – after all, the Club started as a social group for fellowship as well as community service – and we still honour the social part, that's for sure!"

For further information on the Minden Kinsmen Club, you can contact Tom Prentice at 705 286-1428.

DUMB CRIMINALS

STAY BETWEEN THE LINES: A Good Samaritan in Regina, Sask., Canada, stopped to help a man who had slid his car off the road into a ditch. The driver asked to be pulled out, so the Samaritan said he'd return with a rope. When he got back minutes later, the car was gone — but he found the driver sitting in a pickup truck on the other side of the road, where he had again slid into the ditch. Suspicious, the unnamed Samaritan called the police, who determined that both vehicles had been stolen. Keri Diamonde Poorman was sentenced to four months in jail for vehicle theft and driving under the influence.

As an employee of an Arby's fast food restaurant in Brooksville, Fla., left work to go home after his late shift, a man with a gun confronted him in the parking lot demanding the bag he was carrying. The employee handed it over and the robber ran. The bag didn't contain the day's receipts, but rather the employee's dinner, worth about $4. The victim ran to a nearby McDonald's to call for help.

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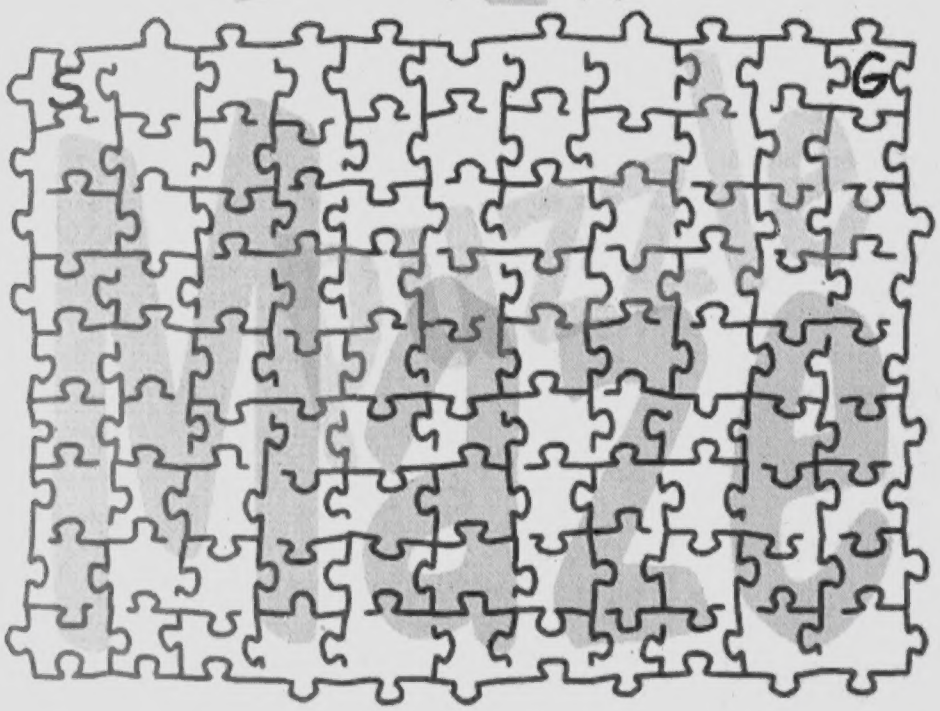

Happy Mother's Day

The Communicator wishes all mom's out there a Happy Mother's Day!!!

May 14th

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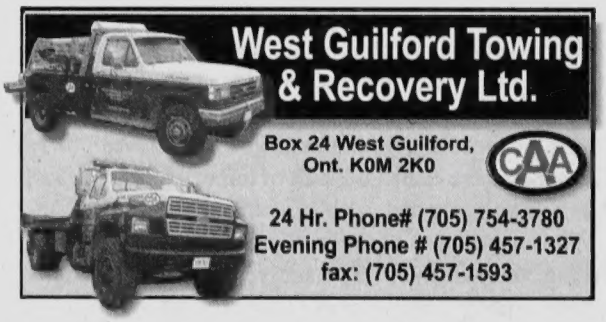

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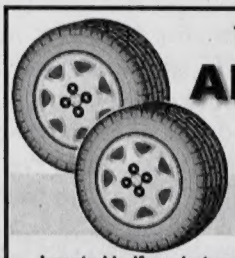

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Hike for Hospice

May 7

Looking for a way to spring into spring? Why not get active by exploring one of our local trails and at the same time raise money for SIRCH Community Hospice. You can do this on May 7th during the annual Hike for Hospice event.

It's easy – you just collect pledges and hike the Head Lake Trail (6 km) or the Sculpture Forest Trail (1 km).

Registration is 12:30 pm at Sir Sandford Fleming College, Hikes start at 1:30. Refreshments, draws, silent auction and entertainment.

A great way to move into spring for hikers of any age! Registration forms available at www.sirch.on.ca/whats_new.php or for more information contact Marilyn Rydberg at 457-1742

Ladies Golf League Starting Up - Sign Up At Icebreaker Social

Ladies – get out the golf clubs and get ready to join the Haliburton Highlands Women's Golf League for an exciting year of golf.

You chance to sign up with the league takes place on Friday, May 5, 2006 at Wigamog Inn at 7:00 p.m. at the ICEBREAKER TEE Social Evening & Registration. All levels of players are welcome to join. For more information call Mary Lou at (705) 455-9266.

Keep Our Museum Growing Spring Seed Sale!

Go shopping on May 19 or 20th in Minden and you will also find faithful volunteers positioned outside businesses raising funds for the Minden Hills Museum. For a small cash donation, receive a packet of seeds - just in time for spring! Money raised will help defray cost of new collections shelving for artifacts and archival material.

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Open Forum

Letters To The Editor

Kinmount Model Railroad

The writer would like to express our sincere appreciation to all the media for your articles requesting volunteers for KINMOUNT MODEL RAILROAD CLUB to keep the railroad chugging. The following have come forward as volunteers and model railroaders to help us:

Cliff & Vanda Veary - Lindsay; John Campbell - Rosedale; Allan Noswortrhy - Balsom Lake; Evette & Trevor Brauer - Kinmount

Hours to view the model layout located in the Kinmount Railroad Station are: Saturday & Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. - May 24th W.E. to Thanksgiving weekend

Thanks for your support.
Bob Mitchell – Chairmam – (705) 488-2057

National Volunteer Week

April 23 - 29 was National Volunteer Week and in communities across the country organizations such as ours, are paying tribute to those citizens who donate their time and skills for the benefit of all of us.

On behalf of everyone at the VON Adult Day Centre, we would like to recognize the contribution of our volunteers, to our program, and thank them for their continued support. Their visits to the Centre have enriched the lives of many, and the interest they have shown in our clients and in our Day Centre program is much appreciated.

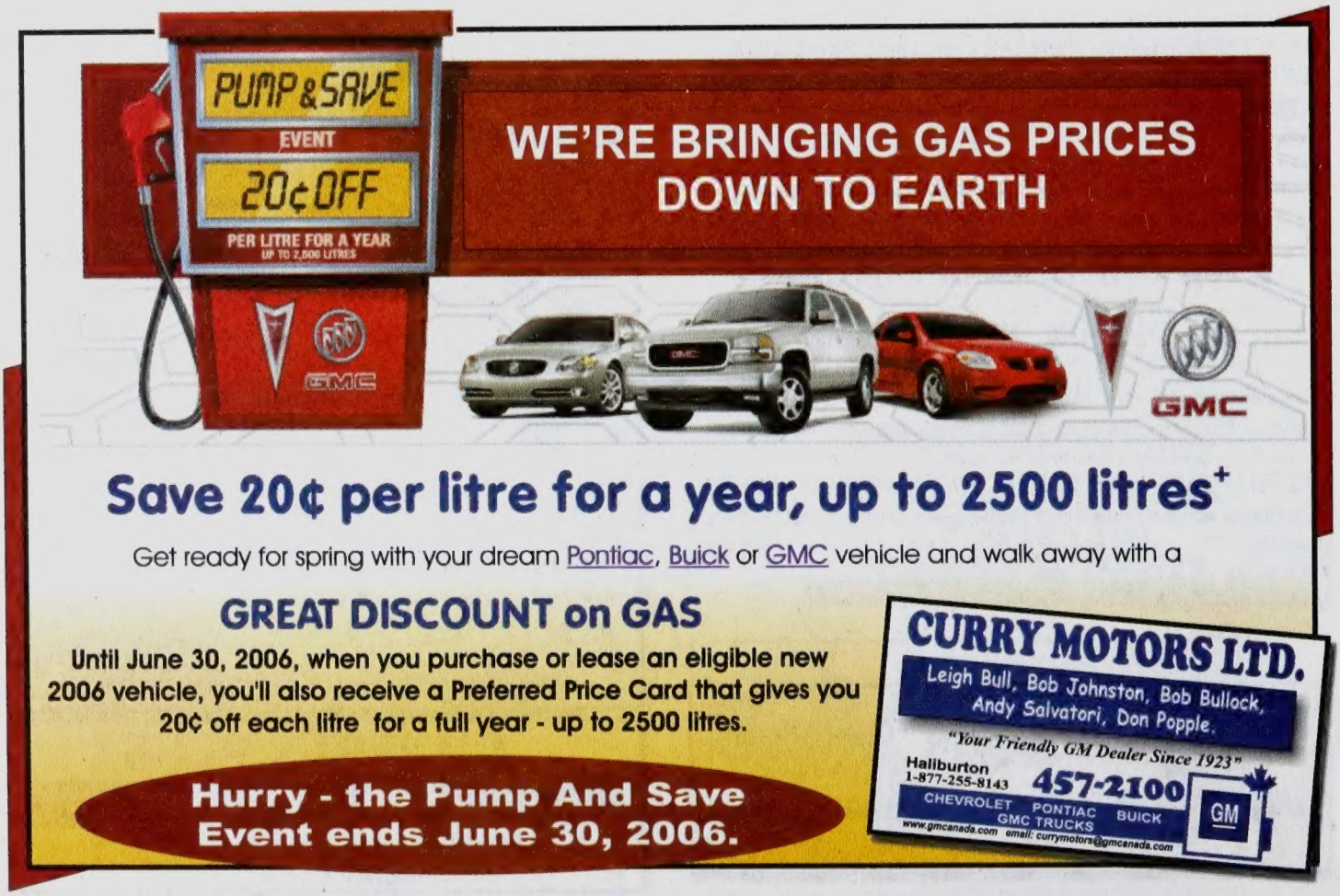
Please accept our heartfelt thanks and appreciation.

The VON Adult Day Program is offered three days a week in the Haliburton County. Monday's and Thursday's in Minden and Tuesday's in Haliburton

Attendance at the program provides the opportunity to enjoy a pleasant day in the company of others, as well as a hot noon meal and the chance to take part in a variety of activities. At the same time it offers the caregiver a regular day of respite to take care of their own needs.

If you know someone who might benefit from the VON Adult Day Program or would like more information, please call the Victorian Order of Nurses at 1 800 743-6255 and speak to the Day Program Manager or call the Minden Centre at 286-6031

Lynn Huffman
Recreation Therapist ~ VON Adult Day Program



Open Forum

Letters To The Editor

Be Remembered

You may be aware of the "consent" question that will appear in the Census of Canada to be conducted two weeks from today, on 16 May 2006. Only if this question is marked "YES" will a respondent's personal information be made available 92 years later, i.e. in 2098 and afterward. For those who answer "NO" or don't answer at all, their information will NEVER be available to future generations of genealogists.
As far as the Census is concerned, these Canadians will not have existed.

We ask all genealogists and family historians to commit to the following course of action:
1. Answer YES to the consent question.
2. Urge family members, friends, relatives, neighbours and colleagues to answer YES.
3. Work with others to publicize the necessity of a YES answer with local media and at libraries,
community centres, schools and other gathering places.

It is vitally important that we get this news out to as many people as we can, especially
non-genealogists who might otherwise never hear about it.

For further information about the issues, please visit http://www.globalgenealogy.com/Census and follow the link "Click here for information on Census 2006 and 'informed consent'". You will find not only a complete explanation of the consent question and its implications, but also a downloadable PDF suitable for forwarding to friends and family.

Thank you for your urgent attention to this deeply regrettable situation.

Paul Jones
Chair, Ontario Genealogical Society, Toronto Branch

Arts Forum Approaching

An Opportunity For Artists In All Disciplines To Let Other Artists And Members Of The Community Know More About What You Do

An opportunity for artists of all disciplines to let other artists and members of the community know more about what you do is taking place at the Haliburton Campus of Fleming College on Thursday, May 25 from 2:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Sometimes you may find yourself spending a lot time focusing on our own work but don't often get a chance to hear about and see what creative activity other artists in different disciplines are engaged in. What kind of artistic work do you do? Are there ways that you engage the public with your work? What projects are you involved in that you are excited about? Are there ways that you collaborate with other artists? This upcoming forum is your opportunity to let others know about what you do.

If you are interested in presenting your work at the arts forum please let the arts council know by May 9th. (you can let them know later but there are a limited number of presentations)

To allow as many presentations as possible time will be limited to 7 minutes, if you are presenting information or visuals, and 12 minutes if you have an interactive component to your presentation.
E-mail your interest to artscouncil@halhinet.on.ca. If we get more requests than we have time we will choose presenters by lottery.

Everyone is welcome to attend to hear and see the presentations. Attendance is free, but you are asked to please register so they know how many people are planning to attend. E-mail artscouncil@halhinet.on.ca to register or if you have any questions.

This Arts Forum is hosted by the Education and Professional Development Committee of the Arts Council - Haliburton Highlands

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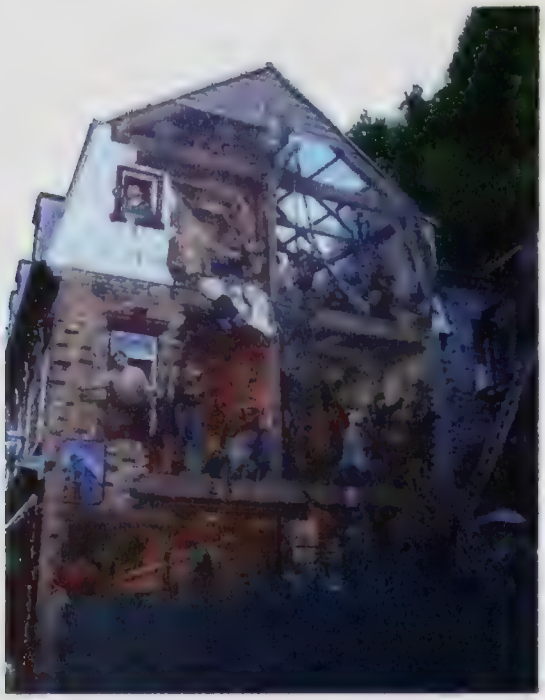

Here's a home with a difference in siding. This issue's weird home pic.

Join In The Walks...

Sunday May 14

What a great way to spend Mother's Day.... Instead of buying flowers, see what nature has to offer for your enjoyment. A feast for the eyes!

The Haliburton Highlands Field Naturalists invites everyone to join them for an early spring wildflower walk to Cooper's Lookout on Sunday, May 14.

To participate, meet at the parking lot on Northshore Road at 10:00 a.m. For more information, contact Sheila at 754-2532.

Saturday, May 20

You are invited to join in for the eighth annual spring morning walk with Donald Smith to see and hear birds along the Rail Trail. Meet at Gould Crossing at 6:30 a.m. To get there drive E 0.4 km along Gould Crossing Road from Gelert Road (County Road 1) opposite the Haliburton Driving Range. Park near the rail corridor. Bring walking shoes, binoculars, field guides, and possibly insect repellent

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Haliburton/Stanhope Airport Pancake Heaven Fly-In

Look up in the air – it's a bird, it's a plane – no, it's a bunch of planes, and they will all be at the Stanhope Airport on May 6-7 for the annual breakfast fly-in.

This events always marks the opening of the season. Everyone is welcome to come out and see the planes, meet old friends, make new friends, see "what's up" at Haliburton/Stanhope Airport. Don't forget to enjoy some pancakes while you are there to see the planes.

For more information **contact** John Packer at 705-754-2611

Get Your Tickets Now For Highland Wind Symphony's "Spring Concert"

Better hurry up and get your tickets and be prepared for a night of fantastic entertainment.

The Highland Wind Symphony presents Spring Concert 2006 featuring soprana soloist Barbara Dunn- Prosser and the much anticipated event is here at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion in Haliburton on Sunday May 7 - 3:00pm.

Reserved Tickets are available at: Masters Bookstore, Haliburton & Pharmasave Drugstore, Minden Adults$12.00/ students$6.00 Family$25.00 For more information call 1-705-457-2862

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Henwood's Expanding To Include Dollar Store

It's a well-worn business cliché that if you don't change with the times, the times will leave you behind, and often choking in the dust! This is a lesson that Jim Henwood, with almost 30 years of retail experience, is intimately aware of. For some 16 years Jim worked for the Shoppers Drug Mart chain, starting in shipping and receiving and working his way up to Merchandise Manager responsible for three different stores, in Hamilton, Oakville, and Milton. In those days there was no Central Merchandising Centre, so it was Jim's job to judge each market on its merits, and make sure that each individual store had the right product mix (excepting drugs and cosmetics).

One day in 1994 he was in a reflective mood, quietly eating lunch in a Hamilton Food Court when he caught sight of an ad in the Toronto Star offering a Haliburton variety store for sale. Jim had spent many summers on Haliburton Lake as a child, usually visiting the cottage of his aunt and uncle, Dorothy and the late Bud Thayer, so he was very familiar with the area. The idea of working and bringing up their young family in Haliburton was really appealing to Jim and his wife Cathy, so they soon started negotiations to purchase the store, then known as Mike's Milk. The business had been founded in the early 1970s by Mike Vuksic, then owned for a few years by Marcel Denis, and was a successful Haliburton landmark. After prolonged negotiations the Henwoods finally took possession and opened Henwood's Variety on November 7th, 1994. "And while we were taking inventory, that first day, there was a major power outage: but I didn't take that to be a bad omen," Jim says with a smile. "In fact right away local businesses and customers started to come by to say hello and welcome us."

"I really wanted to find ways to bring more people into the store and soon started to expand the existing lines and change the mix of items. In 1997 I was successful in obtaining the Canada Post Outlet (from Don Banks) and that was very important in bringing more rural people into the store: soon we became Purolator's Authorized Agent, which also brought more customers in."

Just last week the Henwoods took their biggest step yet and opened their new venture, Henwood's Variety and Dollar Zone with double the floor space featuring hundreds upon hundreds of carefully chosen new merchandise with price tags capped at $3.00 maximum. "I spent literally hours and hours in the big dollar stores in the city checking out their product mix, how much shelf space each category got, and so on. And then we got to work deciding just what would be going into our new Dollar Zone."

At the moment the Zone features an excellent electronics section, a huge selection of greeting cards and multitude of other dollar zone items as well as Henwood's unique mix of bulk candy, homemade fudge and traditional variety store items. And you can be sure Jim will change the mix as consumer demand shifts. Already his customers are delighted with the bright open space and wide aisles. But Jim has always been highly attuned to his customer's needs: for years during the 1990s, for example, when the Globe and Mail, the self-described national newspaper, refused to deliver to Haliburton from September to June, Jim made it his business to arrange delivery from Lindsay or Bracebridge. He sure didn't make

Henwood's Cont'd... pg. 15...

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Double the Store Size - 10 Times The Inventory

... from pg. 14

any money on the service, in fact just the opposite, but he won an awful lot of grateful customers who are loyal to the store to this day.

But why a dollar store? After all, even the big chains like Walmart have dollar zones, not to mention the Dollaramas in the bigger centres, and local competition like the Bargain Shop. "Dollar Zones attract impulse buyers, and if you have the right mix of merchandise, you're going to do well with your existing customers: and you'll begin to bring in more as your base expands," says Jim.

And there's another reason as well: "I was convinced years ago that cigarettes would eventually be totally banned from local variety stores and that if you wanted to stay in business, you'd better be prepared to change. They haven't banned them outright as yet, but it's surely not far off. That's why the big protests by the Korean Businessmen's Association were so strong: with their big-city rents, cigarette sales are an absolute necessity. But what are they going to do when the government puts smokes in with the LCBO, for example, as a controlled substance?" Sound farfetched? Jim Henwood doesn't think so, and neither do the thousands of protesting store owners who marched on Queen's Park last month.

Jim Henwood has also found time over the years to give back as a prominent Rotarian since 1998 (he's currently Rotary President) and as a member of Haliburton's BIA since he bought his store. In fact he was Chairman for almost eight years, and has assumed the position again for this year, but vows to step down this fall (when he plans to run for Council).

Jim also knows first hand the generosity of the Haliburton community: when he and Cathy, and their children Scott (14) and twins Alison and Jennifer (13) lost their home to fire on November 5th, 2003, "the response was really overwhelming," says Jim. "I can't say enough about how much we were helped and how important that help was to us in getting through it."

Henwood's Variety and Dollar Zone is located on Haliburton's Highland Street and can be reached at 705 457-2921. Henwood's is Haliburton's only retail business that's open 365 days a year. Hours are from 7 am until 8 pm.

Pine Reflections - Rebuilt & Ready For Business

It took a lot of hard work, and some help from the community they live in, but the Atkinson's have done it... they have rebuilt and are open for business.

This last winter was a strange combination of long periods of relatively mild weather combined with an exceptionally large number of days with freezing rain and eventually, in late January and February, lots and lots of snow. And then the freezing rain would begin again.

The winter was also particularly hard on roofs it seems. The heavy snow combined with regular lashings of freezing rain followed by a short melt followed by the deep freeze and more snow put a huge strain on many cottages, houses, and in particular, it put enormous pressure on the garden section of Gina and Nigel Atkinson's Pine Reflections store in Carnarvon.

The large steel structure is made of heavy tubing covered with high-grade plastic sheeting. It's survived many a winter of driving wind and snow, due to the structure's inherent strength and its curved shape. But this winter proved too much, and on the night of February 17th, the nursery collapsed under the immense weight of the snow and ice.

Oddly enough, it wasn't the plastic that gave way, but rather the steel tubing itself, which ended up as a twisted mess of metal. The nursery was being used to store Gina's entire garden shop inventory including garden tools, benches, and so on. But that's not all: the Atkinson's were also using it to store a friend's 1984 Camaro as well as a pickup truck.

The Camaro was totalled, the pick-up dented, and most of the inventory damaged, at the very least.

So the Atkinson's bit the bullet, cleaned up and set to work to replace the nursery as quickly as they could. And late last month the annuals, perennials, seedlings and all manner of garden supplies, birdbaths and fountains were all set out in their bright and attractive new home.

Over the years the Atkinsons have raised all sorts of money for the Stanhope Firefighters – Nigel Atkinson is a volunteer Firefighter himself – through their annual Haunted House extravaganza each autumn. So when the nursery collapsed the local community decided this was a time to give back a little to Gina and Nigel. On March 18th last the community held a fund-raising dance at the Carnarvon Bowl (donated by the owners) where all kinds of local businesses donated items for a highly successful silent auction: "It was an awesome thing for me, it really was," says Gina. "I have an Italian background and we're taught all our lives to stand on our own, so it was really difficult for me to admit we could use some help. But my daughter Natalie said we should, and it turned out to be a great night, and a real help. We're just so grateful to the whole community."

Pine Reflections is located on Highway 35 just north of Highway 118 in Carnarvon, and is open seven days a week from at least 9 am until 5:30 pm. But Gina points out that in fact they're usually on site for the nursery business from 8 am onwards. If in doubt, just call at 705 489-1397.

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Best Ball Fundraising Golf Tournament

Get ready for some great fun on the greens. Everyone is welcome to participate in the upcoming Best Ball Fujndraising Golf Tournament at the Lakeside Golf Club in West Guildford on Sunday, June 4th.

Proceeds from the event go to the Tall Oaks Christian Academy.

Tee of time is 2 p.m. and the day of golf is followed by a dinner at 5 p.m. Tickets are $55/person or raise $100 in pledges and golf and eat free!

Tickets and pledge sheets are available from Lakeside Golf Club 754-2110 and Tall Oaks Christian Academy 754-9364.

Why is a wedding ring always worn on the third finger?

Modern "authorities" on etiquette follow their predecessors in matrimonial procedure, in urging that the wedding ring always be worn on the third finger.

Before medical science discovered how the circulatory system functioned, people believed that a vein of blood ran directly from the third finger on the left hand to the heart. Because of the hand-heart connection, they chose the descriptive name vena amori, Latin for the vein of love, for this particular vein.

Based upon this name, their contemporaries, purported experts in the field of matrimonial etiquette, wrote that it would only be fitting that the wedding ring be worn on this finger. By wearing the ring on the third finger of the left hand, a married couple symbolically declares their eternal love for each other.

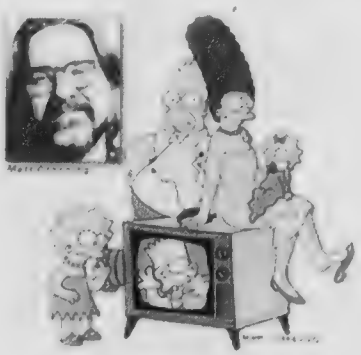
The Name's Familiar...

John Doe

Homer Groening :

Matt Groening was the successful cartoonist behind "Life In Hell," an alternative comic strip that appeared in 200 newspapers across the country.

In the mid-1980s, the produce. of "The Tracey Ullman Show" approached him about doing cartoon version of his strip for the program.



Rather than give Fox television the licencing rights for "Life in Hell," Groening came up with a new cartoon about another family.

He named the characters after his father, Homer, his mother, Marge, and his sisters, Lisa and Maggie. He named his own character Bart, which was an anagram for brat.

"The Simpsons" became so popular that they outlasted "The Tracey Ullman Show." Their own show began on January 13, 1990.

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It's The Law!

New York

In New York City, it is illegal for a woman to be on the street wearing "body hugging clothing."

In New York City, it is illegal for a man to turn around and look "at a woman in that way," and violators are forced to wear horse blinders.

In Staten Island, it is illegal for a father to call his son a "faggot" or "queer" in an effort to curb "girlie behavior."

In New York City, "It is disorderly conduct for one man to greet another on the street by placing the end of his thumb against the tip of his nose, at the same time extending and wiggling the fingers of his hand."

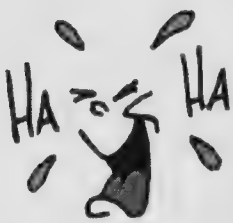
North Carolina

In Charlotte, women must have their bodies covered by at least 16 yards of cloth at all times.

In Ashville, it is illegal to sneeze on city streets. Ironically, Hornytown has banned all massage parlors.

State law mandates that all couples staying in rooms for one night must be kept in room with double beds, kept a minimum of two feet apart, and making love on the floor between the beds is strictly forbidden.

It is illegal to have sex in a churchyard.



Ya gotta love this principal. According to a news report, a certain private school in Washington was recently faced with a unique problem. A number of 12-year-old girls were beginning to use lipstick and would put it on in the bathroom. That was fine, but after they put on their lipstick they would press their lips to the mirror leaving dozens of little lip prints. Every night the maintenance man would remove them and the next day the girls would put them back. Finally the principal decided that something had to be done. She called all the girls to the bathroom and met them there with the maintenance man. She explained that all these lip prints were causing a major problem for the custodian who had to clean the mirrors every night.

To demonstrate how difficult it had been to clean the mirrors, she asked the maintenance man to show the girls how much effort was required.

He took out a long-handled squeegee, dipped it in a toilet, and cleaned the mirror with it.

Since then, there have been no lip prints on the mirror. There are teachers...and then there are educators.

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Lange On The Law

by Donald J. Lange
Barrister & Solicitor

Default Judgments

Someone knocks on your door and hands you court papers - a statement of claim. You are sued by the bank for $25,000 because you guaranteed a friend's loan. The friend is also sued. He tells you not to worry and that he will take care of it. Two months later, the friend files for bankruptcy but you do not know this. He has not taken care of the loan and lawsuit. Five months later, you apply to lease a car. The leasing company does a credit check on you and you learn, for the first time, that there is a judgment against you for the $25,000. You do not qualify to lease the car because of the bad credit check. What has happened?

When you were handed the statement of claim, you had 20 days to respond with a statement of defence. Because no defence was filed with the court, the bank went ahead and "noted you in default" because you failed to file a defence. As a result of this procedural act, the bank was no longer required to give you notice of any further steps the bank might take against you in the lawsuit. The bank took the further step of signing judgment against you for the $25,000 - a default judgment. What do you do now?

You should immediately hire a lawyer to move before the court, that is, to ask the court, to set aside the default judgment. You must address three issues with the court. You must explain any delay in moving before the court after becoming aware of the default judgment. So, it is imperative that you move as soon as possible and not ignore your legal problem.

You must explain the reason you were in default in the lawsuit. You will tell the court that your friend said he would take care of the loan and lawsuit. In other situations, a common explanation to the court is that the defendant did not actually receive the statement of claim. This is especially true in the Small Claims Court where the plaintiff, who is not your friend, may simply mail the claim to you at what the plaintiff believes to be your last known address. You may have already moved from that address.

Finally, you must prove that you have an arguable defence. Usually, this is achieved by filing with the court a draft of the statement of defence that you propose to file with the court if the judgment is set aside.

The court will sometimes impose terms on setting aside a default judgment. If your response to the three issues is a very weak one, a court might require you to pay some of the $25,000 into court as a term to set aside the judgment.

In the next column, I will be talking about shoreline issues.

Ever stop to think and forget to start again?

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Hockey Players... Now Is The Time To Register

Heads up all you Hockey Players. Hockey registration will be this spring and closes on June 20th, 2006. There will be no registration in the Fall. Please see the Ad on page 20 for registration details.

Highland Storm MHA 2006/2007 Hockey Programs

County League – This is the HSMHA House league program available for kids ages 3 to 15. Games are played on Saturdays in either Minden, Haliburton or Wilberforce. Each team also receives one hour of ice time a week for practices and a year end tournament (Glen Dart).

Midget House League – The Midget house league is available for kids 15 to 17 years of age. This is a NON-CONTACT league that will play games against Wilberforce and Bancroft. There will be travel to these arenas for away games.

Mites/Tykes – The Mites/Tykes will play in the Vic-Durham Tri-county against other Mite/Tyke teams. This program is available for kids 5 to 7 years of age. They will practice from October to the end of November. Their season will start no earlier than Dec 1st. They will also be permitted to participate in two tournaments as well.

OWHA – Ontario Women's Hockey Association – In 2005-06 the HSMHA started all female hockey in Haliburton County. We had one team that played at the Novice level and it was very successful. Our goal is to have many more teams for the 2006-07. OWHA is NON-CONTACT at all age levels. The OWHA's goal is to provide competitive hockey for females wishing to play at that level. There will be travel involved. The season will run from October to April.

OMHA – Ontario Minor Hockey Association – In 2005-06 the HSMHA had a very successful season. This program is available for kids 8 to 17 years of age. There will be try-outs in September at the Minden and Haliburton arenas. We offer three levels of competitive hockey – Rep, Addition Entry or Tri-County. Our Rep and AE teams play in the Muskoka Parry Sound league. The Tri-county teams play in the Vic-Durham league.

HIGHLAND STORM

SPRING REGISTRATION:

There are three ways to register:

On-line registration @ www.highlandstorm.org there are two payment options, credit card or cheque. Online Registration will be available after May 15, 2006.

By mail: P.O. Box 406, Minden, ON K0M 2K0

On-site registration will be held:
Haliburton Arena May 18, 23, 30, 2006 @ 7:00 p.m.
Minden Arena May 16, 25, and June 1, 2006 @ 7:00 p.m.

Registration will be CLOSED June 20, 2006

THERE WILL BE NO FALL REGISTRATION

Any questions please call Todd @ 448-9531

Haliburton Highlands Secondary School Envirothon Team wins Envirothon!

The Haliburton Highlands Stewardship Council is pleased to announce that the winners of the Northern Central Ontario Regional Envirothon (CORE) are the Haliburton Hip-waders from Haliburton Highlands Secondary School.

The Northern CORE Envirothon was hosted at Arrowhead Provincial Park on April 12, in partnership with the Parry Sound Muskoka Stewardship Network, the Ontario Forestry Association (OFA) and Ontario Parks. Three teams from the Parry Sound-Muskoka area and one from Haliburton competed for first place on the topics of Forestry, Wildlife, Aquatics, Soils and delivered oral presentations on this year's special topic, Water Stewardship in a Changing Climate.

The competition was intense throughout the day and a close run for first place was evident as the scores filtered in, however, the Haliburton Hip-waders emerged as the winners of the competition by a margin of less than a percent!

The competition was a great success and despite the dreary weather the team of Michelle Thompson, Laura Stouffer, Connor MacMillan, Jen Goodwin and Brian Shim, coached by H.H.S.S. teacher Ron Zondervan, have earned a spot at the Provincial competition in Sudbury, May 10th to the 13th.

The Stewardship Council would like to congratulate the Haliburton Highlands Hip-waders on their victory and would also like to express their gratitude to the many volunteers, teachers and supporters who made this educational competition a success.

Urban Legends

The Mutilated Bride

A young man and his new bride were honeymooning in Paris when his wife went into a restroom and didn't return. With time the man began to fear the worst and went to the police. The police thought it was most likely the girl simply had second thoughts about the marriage, but they checked it out anyway and found no evidence of foul play. As weeks turned into months the man finally gave up on finding his beautiful wife but his life fell into a shambles he was so filled with grief. Unable to hold a job or go on with his life, he took to wandering the world looking for anything that might ease his pain. Years later in Borneo he came upon a freakshow in an old shabby building, he went in on a whim. In the last filthy cage he saw a twisted, scarred and mutilated woman rocking back and forth and groaning strange animal-like noises. He screamed as he recognized the birthmark on his wife's face.

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Believe It... OR NOT!

Wonder How Much He Raised Taxes in That Day?
David Rice Atchinson was President of the United States for exactly one day. This happened due to a glitch in American law at the time.

He Probably Doesn't Worry About The Fine Money!
A 27 year old heir to a sausage empire was handed a ticket for 116,000 pounds for driving at 80 km/hr in a 40 km/hr zone. This is because the speeding tickets in Finland are based on how much money a person makes.

Hey You, Get Off Of My Cloud! I Mean Wave!
A surfer once sued another surfer for "stealing his wave." The case was thrown out because the court was unable to put a price on "pain and suffering" endured by the surfer watching someone else ride "his" wave.

Not a Hard One to Prove Innocence!
In 1985, a pregnant women was falsely accused of shoplifting a basketball.

Peace On Earth?
Since the United Nations was founded in 1945, there have been 140 wars.

Wow
At just four years old Mozart was able to learn a piece of music in half an hour.

Give It Up Dude!
Rapper LL Cool J's name is short for "Ladies Love Cool James."

Yaw! Can You Pass Me the Ringo Star Please!
Ringo Starr appeared in a Japanese advertisement for apple sauce. Ironically his name means "apple sauce" in Japanese

Now His Nickname Is Probably Cash!
The founder of JC Penny had the middle name of Cash.

The sex was so good that even the neighbours had a cigarette.

I used to have a handle on life, but it broke.

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M&M Meat Shops Charity BBQMay 13th.

Stop by for a bite for a great cause!

On Saturday, May 13th, all M&M Meat Shops across Canada will be hosting Canada's largest fundraising barbeque – The M&M Meat Shops Charity BBQ Day. With all proceeds going directly to the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of Canada (CCFC), Jacquie Richards, owner of the local Haliburton store , invites you to come on out and support the CCFC's mission to "Find the Cure".

For a minimum donation of just $2, you get a hot dog or hamburger, a drink and a bag of chips. Jacquie noted that last year, M&M's raised $1.55 million for CCFC. This year's goal is to raise an astonishing $1.75 million!

The Moose FM will be on site to broadcast live and the event runs from 10 a.m to 4 p.m, rain or shine, so bring the family down, forget about cooking lunch and come on out for some great food on May 13th. M&M Meats Shop is located in the Beer Store Plaza on County Rd 21 in the village of Haliburton.

Deck & Dock Dinner

For an exquisite evening out, you must attend the annual Dec & Dock Dinner being held at the Rosedale Golf Club in Toronto at 6:30pm.

In addition to a fantastic dinner, you will be entertained by Shannon Butcher, an accomplished jazz singer and to top the evening off, there is an auction with lots of fantastic items to bid on. This and all the evening's activities benefit the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation.

The cost is $150.00 per person. Call (705-457-1580), email (foundation@hhhs.on.ca) or visit www.hhhs.on.ca/foundation.htm for more information.

This event raised **$ 13,028** for your health care facilities last year alone.

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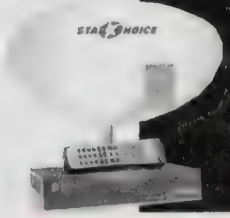

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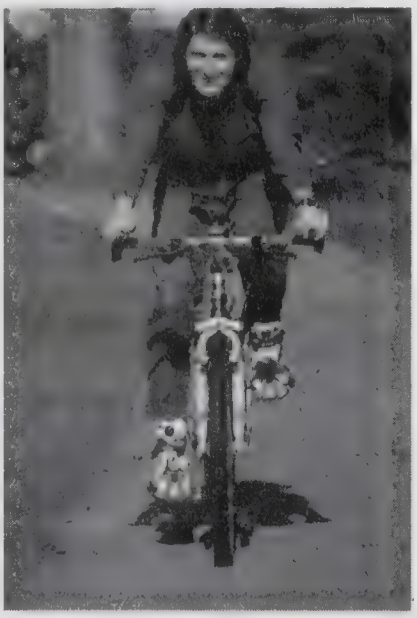
Area Residents Encouraged To Shift Gears And Take Part in Celebration of Cycling

What do you get when you add up two wheels, fresh air, vivid scenery, and hundreds of kilometres of bike routes?

In Haliburton County, the answer is perfect conditions for cycling and it's something that a local group thinks is worthy of celebration.

That's why the Haliburton Highlands Cycling Coalition has organized the first-ever Shifting Gears: Haliburton's Celebration of Cycling set for May 27 in Head Lake Park in Haliburton Village.

The event is intended to showcase the cycling opportunities available in Haliburton County, while raising awareness about bicycle safety and promoting the health benefits that go with the activity.



Shifting Gears: Haliburton's Celebration of Cycling includes bicycle skill workshops for all ages, cycling demonstrations, bike maintenance checks, guided rides, live entertainment, contests, food and refreshments. The event is free, open to all ages and will go rain or shine. Helmets are required for all activities. More information about the festival is available by calling the local Health Unit at (705) 457-1391 or visiting www.trailsandtours.com/category/bike .

"The Celebration of Cycling is not just for cycling enthusiasts, but for anyone who wants to discover or re-discover the joy of riding on two wheels," says Angela Andrews, a festival organizer and Health Promoter with the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit.

Fellow organizer Sue Shikaze is enthusiastic about the interest shown by the community to the cycling festival. Several businesses and cycling enthusiasts have signed up to support the event.

"Cycling is a natural in the Haliburton Highlands because we are blessed to have many cycling routes that are ideal for both first-time cyclists and more skilled riders," says Shikaze, who is also a Health Promoter with the HKPR District Health Unit. "Cycling is also a great way for the entire family to get active and enjoy the great outdoors."

The Haliburton Highlands Cycling Coalition includes representatives of the Health Unit, Health for Life, Haliburton Highlands Trails and Tours Network, and the local cycling community.

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High Speed Update: Connex Working Towards PinPointing Customers... If You Are Interested in High Speed - Let Them Know

Last October a group known as the Haliburton Connect Public Sector Alliance finalized agreements with W3 Connex to build a fiber optic and fixed wireless high-speed broadband facilities servicing businesses and residents all across the County. Haliburton Connect is a group spearheaded by the County of Haliburton and includes Trillium Lakelands School Board, Sir Sandford Fleming College, and the County's four Municipal governments. The three million dollar project got under way late in the year, and the first progress reports are now in.

"It's hard to imagine just how complicated it is to build a network of this size and complexity," says Phil Thomson, Vice President of Marketing and Sales at W3Connex: "It's too bad your readers can't see how busy our team is securing site permits, co-location agreements and procuring all the necessary rights of way. Our team involves Bell, Hydro, the various tower owners and cellular carriers as well as our sub contractor partners Expertech Inc., mmwave Technologies Inc. and Halcom Communications. But we're at the stage now when we would really like to have feedback from all our potential customers, right across the County."

The new network involves a fibre optic "build" that will run from Lindsay north to Kinmount, and then to Minden and finally to Haliburton. This fixed network will serve the major partners, the Municipalities, schools, and probably the Health Services facilities. As well, wireless service will be available to many County residences and businesses when Phase One of the project is completed this September. Phase Two, which will involve building more towers throughout the County to expand the coverage area, has already begun, but this will take longer to complete.

Thomson comments "this is really akin to the way in which cell phone coverage has expanded from the cities to the major towns, and then the countryside. To receive the service initially customers will have to be more or less in a direct line of sight with the major towers we'll be utilizing: we can't get through hills, or ridges, that's for sure. But if you have an existing TV antenna tower, that could certainly help in clearing trees, for example."

Thomson strongly recommends that any interested customers go to the W3Connex website and click on the Request Service Now! Button on the main page. Then fill out the form, preferably with your GPS co-ordinates (i.e. longitude and latitude location) or if you don't have that you can use the closest road or highway intersection. This will give the Connex people a good idea of the interest in the different areas of the County, and will help them in locating future towers.

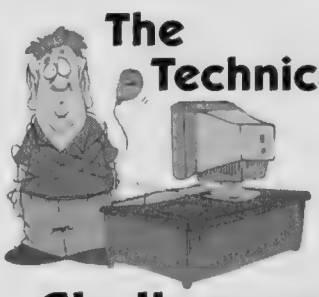
But Connex isn't the only game in town. Xplornet Internet Services also offers a wireless Satellite Internet service that's available throughout the County and although it's not cheap, it's fast and reliable. One way or another, it looks like within the foreseeable future, the depression of dial-up might just be a thing of the past.

And Candlelight offers affordable highspeed - a site inspection can be done to see if it's available in your area.

To request service information from W3Connex, simply go to their website, www.w3connex.com, or call 1 888 235-9326.

To inquire about the Xplornet, call John Fountain Electronics at 705 286-2536 or check out their website at www.xplornet.com.

To inquire about Candlelight, call 286-6580.



An IBM customer had trouble installing software and rang for support. "I put in the first disk, and that was OK. It said to put in the second disk, and had some problems with the disk. When it said to put in the third disk, I couldn't even fit it in... " The user hadn't realized that "Insert Disk 2" implied removing Disk 1 first.

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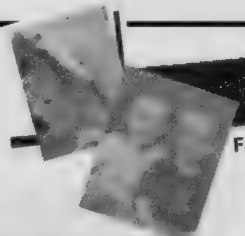
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Websites of Interest

http://www.hcha.ca - the Haliburton County Horsemen's Association.

The Haliburton County Horsemen's Association is a non-profit organization located in the heart of Haliburton County, Ontario. We are a group of horse enthusiasts who provide an opportunity for all people interested in horses to get together and expand their knowledge and safe enjoyment of horses. We do this by involving our members in educational activities such as equestrian clinics and demonstrations, as well as local shows where you can improve your riding skills by competing with others. Our members stay connected through social events held year-round such as trail rides, potluck dinners, corn roasts and other get-togethers. You don't need a horse to be a member of the HCHA - just a willingness to have fun and enjoy the company of other horse lovers.

www.prenticepowersports.com – Prentice Power Sports
Check out Prentice Power Sports website and see what's available to help you enjoy some playtime year. Prentice Power Sports has been in business for 49 years and a recreational product dealer for 35 years - same family, same location in the Haliburton Highlands. Their fully equipped shop has factory trained mechanics capable of any repair. They have been active in snowmobile racing for many years and are a development contributor to the Bombardier MXZ-REV snowmobile. "We don't just sell recreation products, we live and breathe power sports. We pride ourselves on expert service, competitive pricing and first hand product knowledge."

www3.sympatico.ca/mountainview - Mountainview rental cottage.. Gooderham

If you are looking to rent a cottage in the area, check out this one in Gooderham. Mountain View Cottage - Newly Remodeled July 2003 – Winterized. Spectacular north/east view from 10 large windows overlooking Pine Lake in Gooderham

bad predictions

"I don't think we should be too timid to say that at the end of the century, we're going to put a man on Mars; somebody's going to do it."
- Vice President Spiro Agnew, 1969.

Computer tip:

If you hold down the Ctrl key on your keyboard and then turn the small wheel in the middle of your mouse away from you or towards you, the print size will change - it will either get larger or smaller - depending on which way you turn the wheel - Try it!

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Dining and Entertainment

Haliburton County Folk Society Presents 'David Francey' - May 31

David Francey's list of achievements in the folk music industry keeps on growing so you can only imagine how great of a performer he is.

Well, you won't have to imagine anymore. You can see the real deal right here in Haliburton on May 31 as David will be performing live at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavillion.

David's fourth CD, Waking Hour earned him yet another nomination in the Roots and Traditional Album of the Year - Solo category! In concert David is a singer and a storyteller who can establish, in minutes, a personal rapport with his audience. His wry humour and astute observations combined with his openhearted singing style have earned him a loyal following.

Tickets for this great performance are available at the York Street Internet Café, Haliburton, or Golden Stationers in Minden. The cost is $20 per show, or $75 for an all four show package which is good for upcoming performances by other great artists. (HCFS MEMBERS—$18 AND $70 RESPECTIVELY). This show is being brought to you by the Haliburton County Folk Society.

Contact: (705) 754-FOLK(3655), or hcfsociety@gmail.com for more information.

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Puppetmonger – Among The World's Most Honoured Puppeteers Coming To Haliburton

On Saturday May 27th the Rails End Gallery and Arts Centre presents a special performance by the world-renowned Puppet Mongers in their play 'Walidad the Grass Cutter'. The Puppet Mongers are the on-going creation of Ann and David Powell, who have performed their unique and original plays around the world for almost 30 years.

'Walidad the Grass Cutter' is their interpretation of a traditional Middle Eastern folk tale "about the difference between wealth and peace of mind." Fresh off a two week run at the Puppetmongers Studio in Toronto, the show takes the audience into everyday life in the Middle East. "We wanted to share what we had seen of the richness and vast age of Persian culture and to show a country in transition between the ancient and modern, between Eastern and Western influences." The Powells first created the show after a performing tour of Iran in 1976. And despite the horrors the region's experienced since, the play still stands up: Puppetmongers reprised it only last year at the Tehran Puppet Festival.

The Puppetmongers are among the world's most honoured puppeteers: in 2003 they were awarded the President's Award "for making outstanding contributions to the art of Puppetry" from the Puppeteers of America. Previous recipients have included Julie Taymor, the director of 'Lion King' and the late Jim Henson, the creator of the Muppets.

Puppetmongers will also be performing with the Patria troop later this summer to in Murray Schafer's 'Palace of the Cinnabar Phoenix'.

Tickets for 'Walidad the Grass Cutter' are available in Haliburton at the Rails End Gallery, Bauble and Bonbons (in the Village Barn) and at Royal Lepage vanLieshout Realty Ltd. at 197 Highland Street.

The performance takes place on Saturday May 27th at 3:30 pm in the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion. For further information please call the Gallery at 705 457-2330.

Weiner Wagon BBQ for The Four C's May 6th. Have a Dog!

AAhh! There's nothing like the taste of a great BBQ'd hot dog or Sausage on a bun is there? Well, if you're craving the "Q" on Saturday May 6th be sure to head to the "Weiner Wagon" on Highland St in Haliburton where Steve Dunec , owner of "Leftovers" will be setting up his BBQ stand between the Bank of Montreal and the Photo Shop and offering the tasty food with all proceeds going to the Four C's Food Bank. "I usually try to do something for charity every year, and this year it seemed in keeping with what I do at Leftovers. Sell food to help the food bank. I figured they could use a few bucks, so whatever I can get that day, I'll give to them."

More good news for all. The Weiner Wagon will be returning to Highland St full time starting after the May 6th weekend. So be sure to stop by for a bite on May 6th and help out the Four C's Food Bank. There is a rain date of May 8th if weather doesn't co-operate.

Living well really is the best revenge. Being miserable becuase of a bad or former relastionship just might mean that the other person was right about you.

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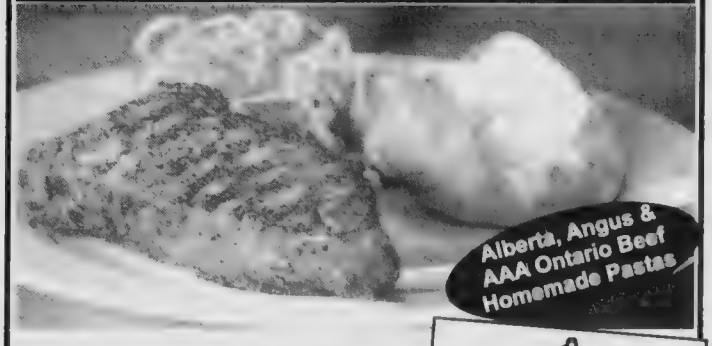

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Events and Workshops at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre

Movie Night - Petticoat Expedition

The Petticoat Expeditions - Thursday May 18 starting at 6:30 at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery (this is a Video Projector production)

This documentary recounts the captivating stories of three British women whose pioneering spirits led them to travel in 19th-century Canada. Author Anna Jamieson, painter Frances Hopkins, and social activist Lady Ishbel Aberdeen chronicled their journey from perspectives as unique as the women themselves. Using dramatization, breathtaking cinematography and their own words, photos, and works of art, this film paints an inspiring portrait of these extraordinary women who would not be constrained by the conventions of their times. View the 3 Grace exhibition after the movies.

Director: Pepita Ferrari - Producers: Don Haig and Kent Martin 1997

Victorian Drawing Class

Saturday May 6 1pm-3pm (weather permitting)

Learn the stylish technique of traditional drawing taught to the ladies of the 18th century. Pen work, ink wash and drawing will be discussed after viewing the work on display in the 3 Grace exhibition. We will then walk around Minden sketching the heritage buildings. Supplies included. $20 per person. Register with the gallery at 286-3763.

Lunch with Barry Grills

Join others May 11 for lunch at Mark's Restaurant on Hwy 35 in Minden to hear Barry Grills, former chairman of *The Writers' Union of Canada*.

Barry will share his insights, views and stories about the world of writing. He will also entertain by, reading from some of his works. Bring your questions along.

A charismatic figure, Barry gets people thinking, laughing and inspired to go home and write. No tickets are required. Just come out and join us at 12 noon.

Please let Pauline Johnson know you are coming as the room will accommodate limited capacity. Call 705-489-3878. This event is co-hosted by the Writers in Residence of the Minden Hills Cultural Centre and the Dorset Branch of the Haliburton County Public Library, Pauline Johnson and Tina Heathcock respectively.

I took an IQ test and the results came back negitave.

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Arty Party VII - An Evening of Socializing & Celebration

You are invited to the Arty Party a semi-annual event hosted by the Arts Council ~ Haliburton Highlands to celebrate the creative community. It's taking place in the Great Hall at the Haliburton Fleming College on Thursday, May 25, from 5:30 to 8:30. It's an opportunity for creative people and people interested in the arts to meet one another, welcome new creative people to the community and celebrate the arts. Everyone is welcome. Please spread the word. There will be door prizes and entertainment.

It's a Potluck event – What to bring? A dish that will serve six people would be great. A casserole, salad, bread, buns, appetizers, vegetables and dip, cheese, cookies, a pie – all contributions welcome. We provide the serving spoons/utensils. It's an Arty Party – creativity welcome (but not required). Please label your dish (name and phone number) in case you and your dish get separated. Please bring food that can be served "as is". We don't have the facilities to reheat dishes. Tea, coffee, water will be provided. There will be a display table for your brochures and flyers for your services and events.

This event is free for Arts Council members and their guests. $5.00 for non-members.

Calling All Lonely Forks

Do you have a lonely fork in your cutlery drawer? One that just doesn't match? Let it be lonely no more. Bring your lonely forks to the Arty Party. We are trying to put together a set of Arty Party silverware (stainless steel is fine too) so we can host these parties plastic free. Bring a fork, use your fork and then fork it over. (Spoons and knives are welcome too). There is a special draw prize for fork contributors.

Questions? Call 705-457-3555 or e-mail artscouncil@halhinet.on.ca

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Worldly News

ACCIDENTAL FELON: Anthony S. Jones, 27, was at a friend's house playing a video game with a child when he called a co-worker at the restaurant where he works. As he chatted on the phone, he warned the child, who was playing "Grand Theft Auto", "There's a bomb in the building. There's a bomb in the building! Everyone needs to get out!" so the kid wouldn't lose the game. But the co-worker on the phone got scared, thinking the comment was directed at him. Police evacuated the Jacksonville, Fla., restaurant and, of course, found no bombs. Officers went to the house and arrested Jones, charging him with making a false report about planting a bomb or explosive, a felony. He faces up to 15 years in prison. (Jacksonville Times-Union) ...He'll be in a cell with the guy who said "Hi, Jack" to his friend on an airplane.

WORLD PREMIER

Don't Miss your Chance to See...

Lord of the Rings

On Stage at the Princess of Wales Theatre in Toronto. Thrilling score, spectacular design and an ensemble of over 65 actors, singers and musicians. Community Care has 40 seats reserved in the dress circle section- May 24th. $180 includes tickets, dinner at the Town & Country & transportation. This trip is available to Trip Club Members. Call today to find out how you can become a member of this great club.

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Call 457-2941 to reserve your seats.

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2006 Show Dates

Friday, June 2nd - 4pm - 9 pm
Saturday, June 3rd - 10 am - 7 pm
Sunday, June 4th - 10 am - 4 pm

For Show Information
Please Call
Wayne Hussey - Show Manager
705-457-2892

Retirees...

Submitted by Ed Leeman

Question: When is a retiree's bedtime?
Answer: Three hours after he falls asleep on the couch.

Question: How many retirees to change a light bulb?
Answer: Only one, but it might take all day.

Question: What's the biggest gripe of retirees?
Answer: There is not enough time to get everything done.

Question: Why don't retirees mind being called Seniors?
Answer: The term comes with a 10% discount.

Question: Among retirees what is considered formal attire?
Answer: Tied shoes.

Question: Why do retirees count pennies?
Answers: They are the only ones who have the time.

Question: What is the common term for someone who enjoys work and refuses to retire?
Answer: NUTS!

Question: Why are retirees so slow to clean out the basement, attic or garage?
Answer: They know that as soon as they do, one of their adult kids will want to store stuff there.

Question: What do retirees call a long lunch?
Answer: Normal.

Question: What is the best way to describe retirement?
Answers: The never ending Coffee Break.

Question: What's the biggest advantage of going back to school as a retiree?
Answer: If you cut classes, no one calls your parents.

Question: Why does a retiree often say he doesn't miss work, but misses the people he used to work with?
Answer: He is too polite to tell the whole truth.

Kinmount Legion News

The Royal Canadian Legion Br. 442 Kinmount is very pleased to announce their 2nd annual Loony Auction and Dinner. To be held on June 2, 2006 in the upstairs hall. Cost is $10.00 per person and includes a delicious meal. Dinner will be served at 6.00 P.M. and auction will follow. We will have many fine items to bid on. We are exited to have signed articles from a famous country-western singer!!! Watch for more information, and find out the name of this celebrity in the next Communicator.

Haliburton Legion News

By Chris Briggs

It is that time of year again. It is time to elect a new executive for the up coming year. At the May 11th general meeting which starts at 7:30pm ballots will be handed out for members to vote in their next executive. You must have your new membership card with you to vote. If you would like to run for a postion on the executive you must be a member in good standing and dues paid in full for the current year. You must be nominated to run. If you have any more questions please call the Legion at 457-2571.

At this time I would like thank everyone who helped me with all the various functions that were put on at the Branch this past year. Without the help of all the hard working volunteers none of the functions and events that went on at Branch 129 would have been possible. A volunteer is someone who helps out where they are needed out of the goodness of their heart. They do not get paid for what they do, but do it because they care. So to each and everyone who took the time to care a heart felt and sincere Thank you. I would like to also say thank you to the members of the executive from the past year. Everyone worked hard for the Branch with the purpose of making Branch 129 a place that welcomed everyone. A Branch that wouldn't quit. A Branch that all it's members would be proud to be a part of. The kudos should start at the top beginning with our president, Jean Flethcer, 1st vice Jack Greavette, third vice, Barry Purpura, secretary, Gerald Irish, past president, Joan Irish, treasurer, Pat Wright, service officer, Bill Scott, executive members,entertainment, Paul Brohm, membership, Ray Baker, L.A. liason, Dorothy Baker,ways and means, Carla Watson, sargeant at arms,youth ed., Brain Hambly,and a special thank you that is sent to heaven above to a special person we all miss dearly, Tony van den Akker our poppy chairman.

Next month will begin a new. With new beginnings brings new ideas and new energy. So make sure you come out and vote and be ready, willing, and able to make Branch 129 the best Branch it can be. See you at the Branch.

Mother's Day
Buffet Sunday, May 14th

For all the countless little things she's done,
without expecting any praise.
The understanding that she's shown,
in so many different ways.
Treat her to the feast of feasts;
celebrate Her Day.

A scrumptious, tantalizing meal, a Wigamog Buffet
$19.95 per person
4th course table d'hote Mothers Day
Dinner from only $33.00 per person

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ON TOUR Yuk Yuk's STAND UP COMEDY

Sunday May 21st
Yuk Yuk's Comedy

Open
Friday, Saturday
& Sunday
From 12 Noon

Pizza & Wings
Pool Tables - Darts - Big Screen T.V.

Planning for Canada's Largest Celebration of Trails is Underway

Autumn 2006 is the target for the first annual Celebration of Trails which will promote healthy active lifestyles and opportunities for local residents to become involved in physical activity on east central Ontario's Trails. The Celebration will include existing and new trail events that take place in the City of Kawartha Lakes, Hastings, Haliburton, Peterborough, Northumberland and their surrounding areas. Taking the lead for the Celebration of Trails is The Kawartha Lakes Community Futures Development Corporation (KLCFDC) in partnership with the Eastern Ontario Trails Alliance (EOTA).

Trail, health, tourism and community organizations; municipalities; businesses; and event organizers who are planning events on the trails from September to November are encouraged to register their event with the Celebration of Trails. Events participating in the Celebration will have the opportunity to post their event on the Celebration of Trails website which will provide a link to their own website as well as have their events featured on promotional materials.

For those who would like help with their existing event or are planning a new event, "How to Create a Successful Trail Event" Workshops will be held in Lindsay, Madoc, Haliburton, Peterborough and Colborne between May 8, 2006 – May 10, 2006. These free workshops are designed to provide participants with ideas, information, tips and resources for planning and organizing trail events. The Haliburton workshop will held 1:00pm to 4:00pm, Wednesday, May 10, 2006 at the HHOA Fish Hatchery on County Road 1.

The 2006 Celebration of Trails is sponsored locally by the Haliburton County Development Corporation and the Haliburton Highlands Trails and Tours Network. "With all the work that has been done and is being done on Haliburton County's trails it is important that we create opportunities for local residents and visitors to get out and enjoy our trails. The Celebration of Trails will help develop and promote those opportunities," says Andy Campbell of HCDC. Lindsay Elder, Executive Director of the Trails and Tours Network notes that "the Celebration of Trails supports one of the Network's new strategic priorities, that is, to develop unique experiences on trails,. The Celebration will also raise the profile of events such as the Hike Haliburton Festival and the IB&0 Trail Mixer".

An event strategy and business plan for the Celebration of Trails has been completed thanks to funding from the Eastern Ontario Development Fund that is administered by Industry Canada/FedNor. Implementation of the Celebration of Trails is being funded by the provincial government's Communities in Action Fund, the Ontario Trillium Foundation, six Community Futures Development Corporations and several community partners.

Anyone interested in more information on the Celebration of Trails, registering their event, or enrolling for an Event Development Workshop, Contact Michlynne Murphy at 705-328-0261 mmurphy@kawarthasmallbusiness.com or visit www.celebrationoftrails.com.

I don't suffer from insanity: I enjoy every minute of it.

Why are manhole covers round?

This question is often asked in job interviews to test an applicant's critical-thinking skills. The answer is that they are round to prevent them from falling through the hole. Since the covers are made to support traffic for many years, they are quite heavy. Rectangular or square shapes can fall into the holes and consequently be difficult to retrieve. When other shapes are used for manhole covers, they are usually hinged or otherwise attached.

Calling all Gardeners

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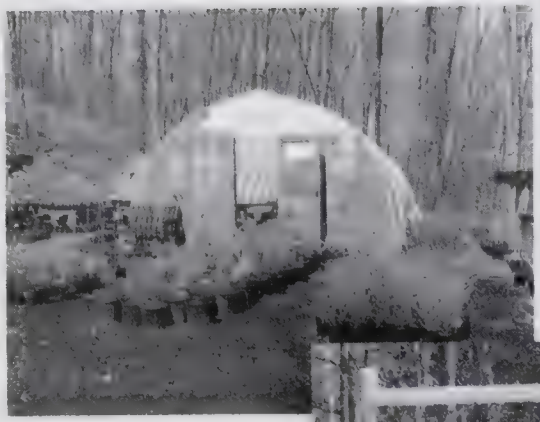

"One of the first questions I ask our customers is, 'what do you want your garden to do for you'" says Vanessa Mackenzie, horticulturalist, Chartered Herbalist, and owner of the Nature Girl Nursery on the Essonville Line. "It's important to know if you want your garden to provide food, or beauty, to attract wildlife, or to grow plants for healing purposes – or for some combination of them all!"

Vanessa first started to grow her own herbs and medicines while living in British Columbia "where there was such a large alternative medicine movement" and she soon decided she wanted to pursue horticultural as a career. She enrolled in Humber College's horticulture course, and then moved to Haliburton with her husband Mike, a contractor and handy man. "We really wanted out of the city, and Mike had been a cottager in the Kinmount area. When we found this lovely property on Vinegar Hill, we decided this was going to be our place."

Vanessa and Mike moved here four years ago and now have a two year-old son, Lincoln. Vanessa finished her Horticultural Apprenticeship at Fleming College and worked on the grounds at Pinestone for a couple a years. She's also a Chartered Herbalist, and was awarded her diploma by the Dominion Herbal College, which has been teaching the ancient herbal arts and sciences since 1926. Together the couple have carved out some wonderful bedding areas and canopy gardens throughout their 24-acre wooded property.

"We're an organic nursery, first and foremost," says Vanessa. "We even make our own special 'Quad Soil Mix', which is a super-rich compost made on site augmented with compost tea and seaweed extracts. Of course we use it extensively for all our own seedlings, but we can also offer some to our customers."

Nature Girl offers a wonderful range of native perennials like White Yarrow, Common Comfrey and Musk Marrow, all of which have some medicinal properties, as well as Wild Lupins, Joe Pye Weed and Tall Flat-Topped Asters. There are native groundcovers like Bugleweed, Bearberry, Partridgeberry and White and Red Trillium: native grasses and sedges like Bearded Shorthusk, native ferns such as Maidenhair and Sensitive Fern, and even native tree seedlings like Balsam Fir, Tamarack, Norway Spruce and

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RENOVATION SALE NOW ON!!

TREASURES

in Haliburton is now holding a huge renovation sale to clear out stock in advance of their new store facelift slated for late spring. Stop in today and you'll find large discounts on lots of great gift items and home decor. You'll love it!

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Haliburton

United Church Hall. Pine Street
Monday May 15- 9:30 a.m

CallMaria at 457-2200 to register

Wilberforce

Lloyd Watson Center
Wednesday May 10 - 1:15 p.m

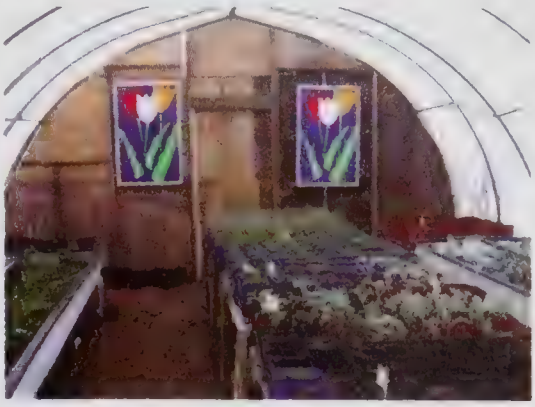
Call Wilma at 457-1909 to register.

How Do You Want Your Garden To Grow? - Nature Girl Cont'd...

... from pg. 38

White Pine. There are native shrubs as well such as the familiar Red Dogwood, Flowering Raspberry, Nannyberry and Highbush Cranberry. All the seedlings are well established, healthy, and ready for a new home.

Nature Girl also produces "exotic plants" such as the medicinal yarrows, wormwoods, St. Johns Wort, Elecampane, Catmint and Valerina, to name just a few. Culinary Herbs include Lemon Balm, Orange Spice Thyme, Peppermint and Silver Needle Thyme. There are ornamentals as well such as Shasta Daisy Chrysanthemums, English Ivys, Daylilies and Peonies.



"Within the next few years we're going to start to manufacture our own herbal medicines: the first stage will include salves and tinctures, herbal teas and relaxants. We're also going to begin to give seminars on general gardening techniques, including how to make the best use of your land. We really focus on the individual needs and visions of our customers – and how we can help them enhance their own natural landscapes."

Vanessa hopes to begin this summer's seminars on the May long weekend, but details are not as yet set. But just one visit to the Nature Girl nursery is enough to begin to inspire anyone to look at their own piece of nature a little bit differently – even if you've never thought your own thumb was remotely green.

Nature Girl Nursery is located at 1765 Essonville Line, half way down Vinegar Hill, between Highway 118 and Wilberforce. The Nursery is open Tuesday to Sunday from 9 am until 4 pm, or by appointment. For information about the gardening seminars, or for appointments, call Vanessa or Mike at 705 448-9143.

The Vision Quest

Doug Aldworth says the ancient spiritual practice of the Vision Quest is a powerful contemporary tool for reconnecting personality to soul. In times of anxiety and personal transitions, we go on a vision quest to know oneself, to seek clarity around major decisions and to seek direction for our lives.

On May 13th, Doug will be at the Gaia Centre from 7:30 – 9:30 where he will discuss the role of 'a vision', the transforming nature of the experience and the relevance of the Quest. He is an avid outdoorsman and speaks from personal experience of the contemporary versions of the vision quest.

For more information, you may call the Gaia Centre at 754 2427 or visit their website www.gaiacentre.org or email gaiacentre@sympatico.ca.

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YMCA WANAKITA SINCE 1953

Protect Your Child
Ensure Children Are Buckled Up Properly By Attending A Free Car Seat Clinic

Parents who struggle with children's restraint systems – or car seats – can head to Minden for the answer on how to install the seats properly.

The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit is hosting:
WHAT: CAR SEAT SAFETY CLINIC
WHEN: Tuesday, May 16, from 10 am to noon
WHERE: Ontario Early Years Centre - (Bobcaygeon Road, Sears Building) in Minden
WHY: Have a Certified Children's Restraint System Technician check that your child car seat is properly installed. Information on car seat safety will also be provided.

A correctly installed child restraint can greatly reduce the chances of young children being injured or killed in a motor vehicle collision. Yet from previous car seat clinics in the area, Health Unit staff find four out of five child car seats are not installed or properly used.

"This is a cause for concern, especially when children are so vulnerable to injuries in a motor vehicle collision," says Angela Andrews, a Health Promoter with the HKPR District Health Unit.

She encourages expectant parents to plan ahead for their new arrival by attending the clinic and ensuring their child's car seat is properly used and installed. Parents or caregivers whose children are going to move into the next children's restraint system stage (forward-facing child car seat or booster seat) are also strongly urged to attend to have the new seat inspected.

For more information, contact the local Health Unit office at (705) 457-1391.

Join us for the first ever

Shifting Gears

Haliburton's Celebration of Cycling

May 27 & 28, 2006

Head Lake Park, Haliburton

Rain or shine!

It's free and it's fun so take part in the festivities!

- bicycle skill workshops & demos for all ages
- bike maintenance checks
- guided rides
- food and refreshments
- live music
- contests

Helmets required for all activities!

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On May 15, from 9:30-4:30. you have the opportunity to spend a day with renowned and radical theologian Matthew Fox. He is the author of more than 20 books, an educator, founder of universities, and an Episcopalian priest.

He will be at the Gaia Centre where he will talk about how the reinvention of work, education and worship is necessary for the sake of the planet. His message, that the Divine can be found in the simplest expressions of human creativity, inspires and challenges his listeners to put dreams and imagination into action.

The Workshop includes lunch, a choice of arts as meditations in the afternoon led by accomplished artists, and closes with a final conversation with Matthew Fox. Experience this passionate teacher and a model of education based on creation spirituality designed to awaken body, mind and spirit for transformation. Fee $100. To register, call 705 754 2427. Or see the web at www.gaiacentre.org. Or email gaiacentre@sympatico.ca.

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Health Unit To Issue Suspension Notices to Area Students

More than 1,000 students in Northumberland and Haliburton counties and the City of Kawartha Lakes may face an unexpected holiday from school as the local health unit prepares to send out suspension notices for students without up-to-date immunizations.

Under the Immunization of School Pupils Act, health units across the province must ensure all students are immunized against the six legislated diseases - diphtheria, tetanus, polio, measles, mumps and rubella.

As part of that role, the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit will be sending out suspension notices to families of impacted students on May 15. Schools will receive the suspension notices by May 23 and the first day of suspension for these students will be May 26, 2006.

"We do not want to suspend these students, but by law, they must be immunized against these diseases if they are to attend school," says Diane Dingman, Director of Communicable Disease Control for the HKPR District Health Unit. "It is our hope that parents will understand the importance of immunizations and the role they play in helping to protect others from diseases within our communities."

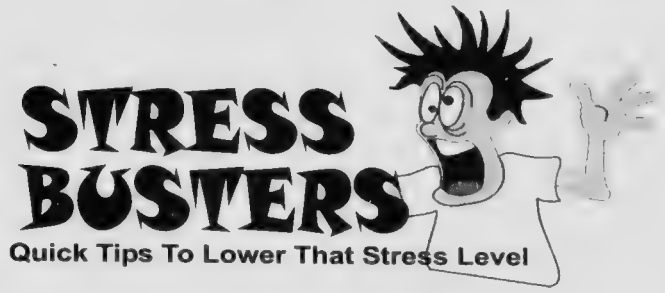
Dingman says she doesn't think the number of suspension notices being mailed reflects the true number of area students not immunized. Instead, Dingman says she thinks many parents just don't realize that they have to provide the Health Unit with information about their children's immunization records.

"Many parents do not realize that their family physician does not forward immunization information on to the health units," says Dingman.

"For most parents, the notice is just a reminder that it is their responsibility to bring their child's immunization record into the Health Unit so the information can be added into our database."

Two notices were previously sent to parents informing them that their children's immunization records were not up-to-date and many parents have come to the Health Unit to provide the information. For others it may have slipped their minds or they may want their child to be exempt from immunizations, Dingman says. The only way a student may be exempted from being immunized is to have a statement of medical exemption or to provide an affidavit of a conflict with conscience or religious belief.

"It's unfortunate that we have to send out final suspension notices, but this is the law and we have to follow-up to ensure that we either have all the information on students, that they are fully immunized or we have their exemption on file," says Dingman.



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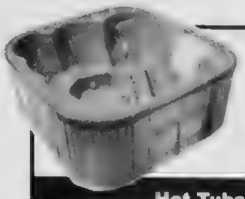

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Get together with your pals, put together "anything home made that floats", decorate your "raft" (and your crew) and be ready to turn the tranquil Gull River into a friendly froth from Minden 's Rotary Park to the downtown bridge. Sorry, no canoes or kayaks.

At the day of the event, you simply register at Rotary Park from 11:00 am to noon . The race itself starts at 12:30pm .

Prizes: There is no entry fee, and prizes will be awarded for most enthusiastic crew, most original raft, most creative costumes, as well as the first to finish.

The following rules apply: All participants must wear lifejackets; Prime goal is to have fun and be SAFE! Rafters must not hinder other rafters, and must go to the aid of anyone who falls into the water.; All entries must be substantially home made (no canoes, kayaks, etc); Rafts must finish intact, with all their crew aboard (no littering please); Participants under 16 must be accompanied by an adult; All participants under 18 must have the Waiver signed by a parent or guardian (copies available at the town office, or on July 1st at Registration).

For more information contact Bill Chadwick 905 853 0955 bill.Chadwick@sympatico.ca

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School News:

by Christine Carr

May is finally here, and with that, the last two months of school before summer, and everything is picking up pace. After a short delay, midterms are finally out, and hopefully everyone did well! Sports are still going strong, with some teams ending while others are just beginning. Badminton has ended their season after a strong showing, so congratulations to everyone who participated! Girl's soccer is just beginning, and so far they have competed in one game. They lost 4-0 but fought bravely and good luck in the upcoming games!

The music groups are almost over their busy spring season as well. The concert band travelled to Peterborough to compete in the Kiwanis music festival on the 19th and brought back a silver plus-almost a gold! Flute Choir also travelled to play in Peterborough at the Kiwanis on April 24th and received a score of 88 out of 100. A Flute Trio, consisting of Erin and Jen Ellison-Frewing and Kelly Dobson also went to Peterborough on the 24th and received a mark of 86 out of 100-an amazing mark for an incredibly difficult piece. Swing Band had a performance last Friday as well, but they are gearing up for their trip to Nationals at the end of May-good luck! If you would like to hear any of these groups, as well as more, the Spring Concert is being held at the High School on the night of the 10th of May, and everyone is welcome.

A group that isn't heard of much, the Envirothon, competed in a series of challenges and made it to the next level! They will be travelling shortly to compete in Sudbury, a great honour. Good luck and congratulations!

Two students from the High School have received a great honour. Sarah McMaster and Melanie Shapiera were chosen to represent the Minden and Haliburton Rotary Clubs in Ottawa these past few days. They left Saturday and are returning Wednesday, and are going with over 200 other students from across Canada to a leadership camp. It will be an amazing experience, and they will get to do such things as meet Stephen Harper himself, have two hours of boot camp training, get up close and personal with life in the Parliament Buildings, and much more. It will have been a great experience.

Only two months left, but there are still lots of things left to happen. Prom is coming up quickly for those graduating, as well as the French Theatre, which will be held on the 25th of May. For more information, be sure to keep reading.

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There were 3 sams in the last issue. They were hidden in the following ads:

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The winner of last month's Spot Sam contest is Lisa Corby of Minden

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Opps...

In the last issue we mistakenly labelled this picture incorrect. Pictured is actually Wayne Hooks with gallery owner Jodi Curry. Sorry for confusion. It definitely isn't Peter Curry. Sorry Peter & Wayne ... I just wasn't paying attention that day. I guess I was paying too much attention to the art in the background and wasn't paying attention to the people in front!! Be sure to stop into the Ethel Curry Gallery in Haliburton and say hi to PETER & JODI!!

The winner of last month's restaurant contest is Margaret Harris of Haliburton

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